

Red, White, and Blackberries...

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The effects of our overly rain-filled spring continue to be rather apparent, with fruits such as blackberries beginning to ripen just in time for the Fourth. Right now, all shades of red and deep blue are observed, though those very early on in the ripening process are more of a light green hue than white, denying us a red, white, and blue theme. Nevertheless, they still have a bit of a holiday feel, which brings us to this special pre-Fourth upload focused solely upon Americana themes in exonomia. We're going to explore some leisurely pursuits that you may be enjoying with this extra time off and extended four-day weekend (*if you are so lucky*), such enjoying a nice beverage at a cookout...



This Civil War token from 1863 served as an advertising piece for a Milwaukee-based brewery, that of the Bavarian-born Valentin Blatz. On its obverse one finds the jovial Gambrinus, a mythical king in the Lowlands who serves as a bit of an analog to that of Dionysios with respect to wine in the Mediterranean. Here, Gambrinus holds up a chalice of beer quite similar to anyone hanging out at the nearest backyard grill.



Instead, maybe you will be spending some time upon a pond or lake, within a vessel that is assuredly worthy of sailing the seven seas. In that instance, you may find yourself setting off in something like the *Calmare Nyckel*...



This Swedish-produced medal from 1938 celebrates the 300th anniversary of the short-lived Swedish colonial foothold in America along the Delaware River. Though it did not survive long, it did account for numerous place names in southeastern Pennsylvania, southwestern New Jersey, and northern Delaware that have Swedish-derived place names. It is also the same ship that is featured upon the contemporaneous Delaware commemorative half dollar, celebrating the same such anniversary.



Of course, if you find yourself in either of the situations above, you'll clearly be soaking up some of the sun's rays. If that's the case, you'll probably be in need of a hat in order to keep yourself just a little bit cooler and to keep that sun off anywhere that your hair is no longer protecting...



This award medal was presented at the Cotton States and International Exposition, held in 1895 in Atlanta, Georgia. The awardee was the G. B. Valera & Ricci firm from Italy, which specialized in the manufacturing of hats—a perfect solution for that sweltering sunshine.



Maybe, instead, you'll be beating the heat and taking in some sports while watching from indoors. There's not a whole lot to choose from right now, but you've got baseball's final week before the All-Star break, as well as opening round coverage of Wimbledon. We're still a ways away from the next Olympics, but here's a participant's medal from the 1932 summer games when they were held in Los Angeles for the first time...



Designed by Julio Kilenyi, a famed Hungarian-born American sculptor of numerous medals, this piece stands as a great Olympic commemorative as well as representation of Kilenyi's style. He even designed the poster associated with the event.



If sports aren't your thing, maybe you'll simply enjoy the time curled up with a good book —either digitally on loan and read on your tablet, or the old-fashioned way with a somewhat beat-up paperback from the '40s. If it's the latter, this final featured medal seems all the more appropriate...



Celebrating one of the titans within American literature, this medal commemorates John Steinbeck following his winning the Nobel Prize in literature in 1962. Famous for classics such as *Of Mice and Men* and *The Grapes of Wrath*, he is presented in a side profile on this rather scarce striking from the Paris mint.

For all of this upload's items, please click [here](#) or on the banner art below, and be sure to stay tuned for our next upload later this month on July 17th, when we will be featuring another group of architectural medals almost entirely produced by the famous Wiener brothers.



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